PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

(Divisional of 10/123,863)

Filing Date:

Herewith

Applicant:

Hiroyuki UMEDA

Group Art Unit:

2838

Examiner:

Jeffrey L. Sterrett

Title:

POWER SUPPLY APPARATUS

Attorney Docket:

9319I-322DVB

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications and other information requested to be considered by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

II. COPIES

A. Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. Many patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were

| previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120: |
|--|
| U.S. Serial Number U.S. Filing Date 10/123,863 April 16, 2002 |
| C. Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith. |
| D. This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form 1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. Since the International Search report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g).) |
| CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box) |
| A. \boxtimes Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required). |
| B. \boxtimes A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)): |
| 1. See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application: |
| 2. English translations are provided: as indicated on Form-1449. |
| 3. \boxtimes Other: See the attached English abstracts, machine translations, and note that 5,416,403 corresponds to JP6-289073 and 6,297,624 corresponds to 2000-11649. |

C. \square The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

III.

| IV. | CROSS REFERENCE TO R | ELATED APPLICATION | <u>(S)</u> |
|-----|--|---|--|
| | A. The Examiner is accontain(s) subject matter the bringing this(these) applicat (do) not waive the confidenti | nat may be related to th ion(s) to the Examiner's | e present application. By attention, Applicant(s) does |
| | <u>Serial No.</u> | Filing Date | Art Unit |
| V. | THIS IDS IS BEING FILED U | <u>JNDER</u> | |
| | A. 🔀 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b): (c | check <u>only</u> one box) | |
| | than a continued pro | nths of the filing date of osecution application und certification is required. | a national application other der § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § |
| | 2. within three mo forth in § 1.491 in an fee or certification is r | international application (| of the national stage as set 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No |
| | | ng of a first Office Action certification is required. | on the merits (37 C.F.R. § |
| | 4. before the maili for continued examination is required. | ng of a first Office Action ation under 37 C.F.R. § 1 | after the filing of a request .114. No fee or certification |
| | B. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c): (c | heck <u>only</u> one box) | |
| | before the mailing da 1.113, a Notice of Al otherwise closes pros | lowance under 37 C.F.R | ce Action under 37 C.F.R. § . § 1.311, or an action that |
| | 1. No certification; by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p | | nount of \$180.00 is required |
| | 2. See the certification | tion below. No fee is req | uired. |
| | C = 27 C E B \$ 4 07(d). | | |

after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee. 1. See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). <u>CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e):</u> (check only one box) The undersigned hereby certifies that: A. Leach item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d) below in section VII. if applicable; or B. \(\square\) no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)). C. Some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d) The undersigned hereby states that: ach item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VI.

VI. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A. A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above identified fee.

B.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 2004

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GGS/BEW/msm

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

| ATTORNEY DOCKET No. | SERIAL NO. | | |
|---------------------|------------|--|--|
| 9319I-322DVB N/A | | | |
| APPLICANT | | | |
| Hiroyuki UMEDA | | | |
| FILING DATE | GROUP | | |
| Herewith | N/A | | |

| U.S. P | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date | Name | Class/ Subclass | (If appropriate) Filing Date |
| 1. | | 6,424,128 | July/2002 | Hiraki, et al. | | |
| 2. | | 6, 249, 110 | June/2001 | Geyer, et al. | | |
| 3. | | 6, 060, 869 | May/2000 | Shimoda | | |
| 4. | | 5, 267, 136 | Nov/1993 | Suga, et al. | | |
| 5. | | 5, 083, 078 | Jan/1992 | Kubler, et al. | | |
| 6. | | 4, 581, 694 | Apr/1986 | Adam | | |
| 7. | | 4, 502, 152 | Feb/1985 | Sinclair | | |
| 8. | | 4,194,147 | Mar/1980 | Payne | | |
| 9. | | 6, 297, 624 | Oct/2001 | Mitsui, et al. | | |
| 10. | | 5,416,403 | May/1995 | Stephens | | |

| FORE | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|---------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date | Country | Class/ Subclass | Translation Yes | on No |
| 1. | | 2000-268562 | Sep/2000 | Japan | | | |
| 2. | | 11-041825 | Feb/1999 | Japan | | | |
| 3. | | 11-003125 | Jan/1999 | Japan | | | |
| 4. | | 10-094193 | Apr/1998 | Japan | | | |
| 5. | | 2000-011649 | Jan/2000 | Japan | | | |
| 6. | | 10-301642 | Nov/1998 | Japan | | - | |

| Examiner: | Date Considered: |
|-----------|------------------|
| | Date Considered. |

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

| ATTORNEY DOCKET No. | SERIAL NO. | | |
|---------------------|------------|--|--|
| 9319I-322DVB N/A | | | |
| APPLICANT | | | |
| Hiroyuki UMEDA | | | |
| FILING DATE | GROUP | | |
| Herewith | N/A | | |

| FORE | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | Document Number | Date | Country | Class/ Subclass | Translatio Yes | n No |
| 7. | | 6-289073 | Oct/1994 | Japan | | | |

| OTHE | R DOCUME | NTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |
|----------------|------------------------|--|
| Ref. Desig. | Examiner's Initials | |
| 1. | | |

| Examiner: | Date Considered: |
|-----------|------------------|